NAPB EC Call

March 19, 2019

**Attendees:** Todd Campbell, Don Jones, Peggy Ozias-Akins, Dave Bubeck, Wayne Smith, Alex Lipka, Jim McFerson, David Fang, Evan Crain, Virginia Sykes, Chris Smallwood, Donn Cummings, Ksenija Gasic

**Dave Bubeck** - February 2019 minutes approved, with one edit to the Zoom managed by the Education committee

**NAPB participation in ASHS coming up in July - Todd**

Link to American Society for Horticultural Science annual meeting: https://ashs.org/page/GeneralConference

EC made decision to purchase a booth at the trade show during the entire meeting, same display that NAPB has had at the two ASTA meetings in Chicago and Orlando.

With the booth registration and payment, we can have two representatives attend with registration costs waived, Peggy Ozias-Akins is attending and Dave Bubeck is tentative, but will decide in next few days if he will attend.

**Action:** if other committee chairs want to attend ASHS and represent NAPB, please let Dave Bubeck know as soon as possible.

Travel funding to the meeting is considered, but no decision yet. If there is a need to support travel, then EC will vote on it.

Question about what portion of our NAPB membership is also a member of ASHS? We don’t have a way of determining that with data.

NAPB summary poster to be presented as well.

**August NAPB Meeting - Peggy**

Registration is now open for the 2019 NAPB meetings

Last 10 speakers are actually “NIFA” speakers

Six different scientific sessions

Borlaug scholar breakfast before NIFA session

Sunday morning workshop planned – all reserved, but need details for the application yet

May 1st deadline for applications

**Action:** Determine whether space and separate rooms will be needed by all or any NAPB sub-committee needs to be determined. If we have a large enough room, we could do breakouts in the large room? Committee chairs please give feedback to EC.

Four slots for submitted abstracts and placing four high potential students in speaking slots.

**Action:** Students also have a choice for the 1 minutes lightning talks for the posters, up to 60 talks in four 15 minute slots. Who will organize this? Need to determine who will organize this – education committee?

**Action:** After call today Todd send around e-mail with three web links to EC members representing CSSA, AAAS, Maize Genetics Conference and the EC will resolve how to move forward, regarding meeting policy on respect for others, harassment policy.

Diversity enhancement award – graduate student committee took the lead on this in 2018. Need some guidelines for the mentors, and did we have some last year? Some direction given to the awardees on how to summarize a session. Did not have guidelines for mentors last year, but would be good to develop some. Consider requiring a single paragraph for the newsletter on ‘what did you get out of the conference overall’? When pairing up the mentors and awardees, what are the expectations of each. Long format summary of the session, guidelines, outcome and impact of the session for them.

Last year most of the minority students went to the Sunday morning workshop, but the numbers and availability are limited. Consider giving preference to students that were not in attendance next year, if number of slots is limited.

Dates on exhibitor responses and sponsorship? Still working on Sponsorships, but we currently have a commitment of $50,000. There is also a USDA ARS based program to help with meeting sponsorship.

Need an exhibit space again for the Borlaug scholars.

**Financial Update - Don Jones** –

Balance of $125,000

Guelph meeting netted ~$17,000

Along with strategic planning, are we considering changing our membership fee level, as we review the 5-year strategic plan. Looking at the report, we are declining in professional membership.

**Action:** discuss membership fee level as part of the 5 year strategic plan

**Awards Committee – Jim McFerson**

Need more people from industry on the committee

**Strategic Planning – Wayne Smith**

Met last week, gone through five iterations

Another week for reviewing, and expect to bring to completion in the next two weeks.

Will move soon to EC for review in the near future and go to members at annual meeting for ratification

**PBCC – Ksenija Gasic**

Monthly meeting yesterday

Breeding survey results being analyzed and will report out at UGA NAPB meeting

Loss of personnel at NPGS – concerns about lack of succession plans in the next 5-10 years – Pat Byrne leading

Meeting to fund from USDA and list of subjects to develop and teach to future students and potential employees; on-line educational opportunities being considered for Universities

Public – Private collaboration opportunities by Thomas Lubberstadt for future training in plant breeding, and how latest mergers will affect future workforce needs

Info-graphics – developed to advertise plant breeding – Mike Kantor

Presenting posters and abstracts at ASHS

AAAS – presentation to be considered – given the topic of the meeting next year, “Tomorrow’s Earth” – consider how plant breeding affects the environment, how to be represented as harmony with the environment.

Idea of having some type of award lecture in front of PBCC that would recognize the scientists from public breeding programs, but not necessarily breeders, but those that helped facilitate or support plant breeders.

Working on ideas for renewal which comes up again next year

**Communications committee – Virginia Sykes**

need more images and would propose a photo contest with prize money awarded

Consideration for NAPB Marketing opportunity

**Action:** communications committee should work up a proposal for photo contest and send to Todd who will distribute to the EC for a funding decision

**Education Committee – Chris Smallwood**

Consider time on the agenda at UGA for videos from winners – could be done during one of the sessions at UGA.

Consideration youtube videos to be taped at UGA meetings during coffee breaks

Would like information on abstracts when they become available and also a list of potential judges at the poster contests for UGA

**Borlaug Scholars – Donn Cummings**

16 graduate students and 50 undergraduates nominated

Thanks to Cotton Incorporated for additional $2500 to Borlaug Scholars